



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE THE APPLICATION OF)

Mark Joseph Stefan Jarosz)

SERIAL NO: 09/862,860)

FILED: May 22, 2001)

FOR: COMPUTER SYSTEMS, IN PARTICULAR)

VIRTUAL PRIVATE NETWORKS)

Group Art Unit No: 2152

RECEIVED

JUL 03 2003

Technology Center 2100

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Honorable Director of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir,

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. Sections 1.97-1.98, submitted herewith is Form PTO-1449 along with copies of the 2 references identified therein. Also submitted herewith is a copy of the European Search Report which was received by the Applicant on May 27, 2003 and which constitutes the first knowledge of the Applicant of the cited references. This Information Disclosure Statement is therefore being timely filed and no fee is due.

US 6473863 (Genty et al.) describes system for enhancing the security of a virtual private network (VPN) by automatic pre-negotiation of a secondary configuration. If snooping or other security breaches are detected, the VPN tunnel is modified automatically to the secondary pre-arranged configuration (see abstract). Modification of the VPN tunnel involves using different IP addresses, different encryption keys, and a different encryption method (column 6, lines 14 – 24).

It is believed that the present invention as claimed is clearly patentably distinguished from this reference. In particular, there is no suggestion in Genty of a computer system comprising a first node connectable to a second node via one of a plurality of third nodes, as required by the present claim 1. Moreover, there is no suggestion in Genty of any means for detecting failure of a selected third node, and means for selecting another third node and setting up an encrypted connection between the first node and the other selected third node, as required by claim 1.

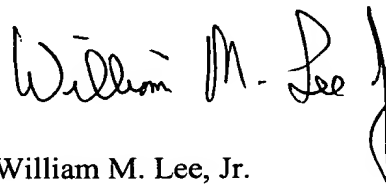
The other reference (Panicker et al) was cited as a category A document, and it is believed that this reference, while of technological background interest, is not relevant to the invention as claimed in the present application.

It is therefore submitted that the claims of this application are clearly patentable over the references.

Examination of the application on its merits is awaited.

Date: 6/4/03

Respectfully Submitted



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<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> SUBSTITUTE FOR FORM 1449A/PTO </div> <h2 style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</h2> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;"><i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i></p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th colspan="2" style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;"><i>Complete if Known</i></th> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px;">Application Number</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">09/862,860</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Filing Date</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">May 22, 2001</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">First Named Inventor</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Jarosz</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Art Unit</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">2152</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Examiner Name</td> <td style="padding: 5px;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Attorney Docket Number</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">920190-901808</td> </tr> </table>	<i>Complete if Known</i>		Application Number	09/862,860	Filing Date	May 22, 2001	First Named Inventor	Jarosz	Art Unit	2152	Examiner Name		Attorney Docket Number	920190-901808
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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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